Law Offices of John M. Sears, P.C. John M. Sears State Bar No. 005617 107 N. Cortez, Suite 104 Prescott, AZ 86301 (928) 778–5208 Attorney for Defendant SUPERIOR COURT
YOUNG TO COUNTY, ARIZONA

2009 MAR 18 PM 3: 03

JEANNE HICKS, CLERK

BY: Buptetles

In the Superior Court

In and for the County of Yavapai, State of Arizona

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STEVEN DEMOCKER

Defendant.

Case No. CR 2008- 1339

DIVISION 6

DEFENDANT'S POSITION REGARDING ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Defendant, STEVEN DEMOCKER, by his counsel undersigned, hereby responds to the Court's invitation to express a position with respect to whether any attorney-client privilege remains after the death of Carol Kennedy with respect to her divorce files. As the Court knows, the State has issued a Subpoena *Duces Tecum* for the files and records of Attorney Robert Fruge, who represented Ms Kennedy in the divorce proceeding involving this Defendant.

It is clear in Arizona that attorney-client privilege does not end with the death of the client. State v. Macumber, 112 Ariz. 569 (1976). That being the case, the privilege is now held by Katie DeMocker in her capacity as Personal Representative of the estate of her late mother, Carol Kennedy. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from Ms DeMocker to Mr. Fruge asserting the attorney-client privilege at least until she has an opportunity with her attorney to review the file and all of its contents.

Accordingly, Defendant respectfully suggests that the Court decline to sign the order presented by the State authorizing the release of the file pursuant to subpoena.

DATED this 18th day of March, 2009.

LAW OFFICES OF JOHN M. SEARS, P.C.

By:_

John M. Sears, Attorney for Defendant

Copy of the foregoing hand delivered this 18th day of March, 2009 to:

Honorable Thomas B. Lindberg
Judge of the Yavapai County Superior Court
Division 6
Yavapai County Courthouse
Prescott, AZ

Mark Ainley Yavapai Deputy County Attorney Yavapai County Courthouse Prescott, AZ

By:

Katherine Democker

March 13, 2009

Robert Fruge Attorney at Law 3619 Crossings Drive, Suite A Prescott, Arizona 86305

Re: Estate of Carol Kennedy

Dear Mr. Fruge:

As you may be aware, I have been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Caroline Kennedy. Although I have not personally reviewed the request, I understand that there may be a written request from attorneys to review my mother's divorce file, which is in your possession.

My attorney indicates to me that I, in my capacity as Personal Representative, should be able to assert privacy rights and the attorney client privilege on behalf of my deceased mother, concerning your file. To that extent, I do not want to waive any privilege I may have with regard to the file, and all its contents, until I have had an opportunity to review it. Upon review, you and I can discuss what, if any, portions of the file should be released to the attorneys requesting it.

If the foregoing plan is acceptable to you, please contact my attorney, Christopher Kottke, at your convenience, so he and I may establish a mutually convenient time to attend your office to review the file. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Personal Representative of the Estate of Caroline Kennedy

Mr. John Sears, Esq.

CC: